

Child Development and Ethnicity Part I: Fuller and Glick

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NICHD-NCES ECLS-B Conference
May 8, 2007



National Institute of
Child Health and Human
Development (NICHD)



Children's Health and Cognitive Growth in Diverse Latino Communities

- Bruce Fuller and colleagues do a very thorough job in addressing two paradoxes:
 - **Epidemiological Paradox** - There is some evidence supporting an "immigrant paradox", where even disadvantaged immigrants have healthy offspring relative to their non-immigrant peers
 - **Cognitive-Developmental Paradox** - Although there are some protective factors (e.g., two-parent households), at 24 months both health (e.g., asthma) and cognitive functioning impacted by SES

Children's Health and Cognitive Growth in Diverse Latino Communities

- Issues to consider and potential limitations:
 - **Assessment** - At 9 months the Bayley is mainly testing sensory-motor integration, at 24 months verbal skills become much more important. Divergence at 24 months not likely test bias, as children assessed in dominant language.
 - **Double-Whammy** - At 24 months begin to see the detrimental effects of poverty (e.g., lower levels of stimulation) and the cognitive load of having to learn a second language/culture.
 - **Sample** - Illegal immigrants? Migrant workers?

Where Do Trajectories Diverge?

- Jennifer Glick and Littisha Scott do an excellent job looking at factors that impact cognitive development trajectories:
 - **Mother's Nativity** - Tease apart the effects of generation status, linguistics and national origin background, and racial/ethnic identification.
 - **Cognitive Development** - How does mother's nativity and ethnic differences in the home environment impact their children's cognitive development?

Where Do Trajectories Diverge?

- What makes a difference:
 - **Mother's Nativity** - Age at which mothers immigrate does appear to make a difference, but may be confounded with why they migrated (e.g., labor versus education).
 - **Cognitive Development** - Parental responsiveness appears to be associated with positive cognitive trajectories in some foreign born mothers, but not others.
 - **Asian Paradox?** - Parental responsiveness very low among Chinese immigrants, but they have the highest cognitive scores. Cultural differences?